

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form
Intercounty Connector Project

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name: (indicate preferred name)

historic Robert Richardson House

and/or common Mitchell House

2. Location:

street & number 103 Old Bonifant Road ☐ not for publicationcity, town Cloverly ☒ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Montgomery

3. Classification:

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military other:
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation

4. Owner of Property: (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Robert & M.L. Mitchell et al

street & number 103 Old Bonifant Road

telephone no.:

city, town Silver Spring

state and zip code MD 20904

5. Location of Legal Description

Land Records Office of Montgomery County

liber 3752

street & number 50 Maryland Avenue

folio 88

city, town Rockville

state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

ty, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. M:28-45(PACS C6.18)

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Resource Count: 1

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Robert Richardson House is a 2-story, 3-bay I-house on the east side of Old Bonifant Road in the Cloverly vicinity, Montgomery County. Constructed circa 1905, the building has multiple additions, including a 2-story addition on the front facade, a 1-story addition on the rear elevation, and a 1-story carport addition on the south side.

The original I-house section of the structure has a side-gable, asphalt shingle roof. It is of wood-frame construction with wide, wood siding and it has a stone foundation. The front addition has a flat roof at the south end of the structure and a front-gable roof at the north end of the addition. The rear addition has a hipped roof and the side addition has a dual-pitch roof. All of the additions have concrete foundations. All windows are aluminum replacement windows and have altered the size of the original window openings. The house has a 1-story porch on the front elevation, which extends to the roofline of the side carport addition. The porch has a concrete floor and wood lattice railings.

The front, or west facade of the original I-house is entirely concealed by the 2-story, front addition. The addition has a picture window, door and a 1-light awning window on the first story. The second story has two, 1/1 double-hung windows.

The north elevation includes the 2-story front addition, the original I-house, and the 1-story rear elevation. The front addition has a 2-light sliding window on the first story and one, 1/1 double-hung window on the second story. The I-house has a 2-light sliding window on the first story, a 1/1 double-hung window on the second story, and a louvered vent in the gable end. The rear addition has one, 8/8 double-hung window.

The rear, or east elevation has a 1-story hipped roof addition, which conceals the first story of the original I-house. The addition has two, paired 6/6 windows and double sliding glass doors. The south end of the addition has a 1-story chimney, covered in wood siding. The second story of the I-house has two, 1/1 double-hung windows.

The first story of the south elevation of the I-house is covered by the 1-story side addition. The I-house has a central, exterior brick chimney and no fenestration. The side addition is an open carport, with lattice screening in the openings. The eastern end of the addition is enclosed as a storage area, and has a wood door, and two double-hung windows.

Alterations to this structure include the multiple additions, which have obscured the original form of the house, complete window replacement, and alteration of the siding.

There are no outbuildings associated with this structure.

The property is located on the east side of Old Bonifant Road, with modern residential properties to the north and south and a small orchard to the east.

8. Significance

Survey No. M:28-45(PACS C6.18)

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archaeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communication	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates circa 1905

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or
Applicable Exceptions: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Robert Richardson acquired this property in 1905 from Joseph and Effie Boston, at which time the extant house was constructed. The parcel contained approximately 3.2 hectares (8 acres) and was transferred to various owners during the twentieth century. Each of these transfers of ownership reduced the parcel size, until it reached its current size of .31 hectares (.79 acres) in 1968, when the current property owners acquired the property.

The Robert Richardson House is in the area historically known as Cloverly. Cloverly is the name given to a region in Eastern Montgomery County which extends for several miles around the town of Spencerville. On present maps, Cloverly is often linked to the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue and Briggs Chaney Road. In the nineteenth century this area consisted of agricultural and open land and small villages. Farmsteads produced tobacco in the early nineteenth century, followed by wheat and dairy production in the mid to late nineteenth century. The development of the region was aided by a network of major travel routes, including the Ashton-Colesville Turnpike (New Hampshire Avenue), Old Baltimore Road (Layhill/Ednor Road) and the Laurel Road (Spencerville Road). The town of Spencerville developed in the late nineteenth century and prospered into the twentieth century as the commercial center of the Cloverly area. The region had a large number of Quaker and Methodist settlers, and several nineteenth century African American settlements.

During the twentieth century, the economy of Montgomery County shifted away from agrarian to service, government, insurance and banking industries to support the growing Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The effect of this change spread north into the Cloverly area. Many of the historic farmsteads were developed into suburban neighborhoods, small villages were infilled with new construction and farmhouses were "updated" with additions, stylistic alterations and infrastructure improvements. Today, few farmhouses, and even fewer farmsteads, exist in the Cloverly area, as suburban development continues (M-NCPPC 1995, 34-37).

The Robert Richardson House is an example of an I-house, which has been extensively altered. The standard I-house is one room deep and two stories tall with three to five openings on each story. From the front, an I-house is often indistinguishable from a Georgian house. The gable view, however, reveals the greater depth of the Georgian house. Chimneys are located on the interior of the gable ends, however, external chimneys are characteristic in the Chesapeake region. Usually, an I-house has a one-story porch running the length or nearly the length of the long side. Inside the house, a central hall separates the two rooms on the first floor; the second floor contains either two or four sleeping chambers. Due to the narrowness of the main core,

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Robert Richardson House

SURVEY NO.: M:28-45 (PACS C6.18)

ADDRESS: 103 Old Bonifant Road, Cloverly vicinity, Montgomery County, Maryland

8. Significance (Continued)

many I-houses have kitchen wings to the rear. Initially, stone masonry construction was used but by the mid-nineteenth century, as pre-cut lumber became increasingly available, frame construction became the norm. During the Victorian period, pre-cut detailing or a two-tiered porch was commonly grafted onto the traditional I-house. The I-form was popular into the early twentieth century, with examples appearing in catalogs of mass-produced suburban houses (Gowans 1992, 55-6).

NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION:

The Robert Richardson House, a circa 1905 I-house which has been extensively altered, is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. The structure is not eligible under Criterion C, as the original form of the I-house has been severely compromised by numerous additions. In addition, the material integrity of the house is poor, due to complete window replacement of insensitive size and material, and the installation of wide wood siding. The property has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility Not Recommended X

Comments: _____

Reviewer, OPS: E. Hannold/K. Williams

Date: 11/25/1996

Reviewer, NR Program: *B. Kintz*

Date: 3/2/02

9. Major Bibliographical References Survey No. M:28-45(PACS C6.18)

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .31 hectare (.79 acres)

Quadrangle name Kensington, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Caroline Hall

organization P.A.C. Spero & Company

date December 1996

street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412

telephone (410) 296-1635

city or town Baltimore

state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposed only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
(410) 514-7600

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Robert Richardson House

SURVEY NO.: M:28-45 (PACS C6.18)

ADDRESS: 103 Old Bonifant Road, Cloverly vicinity, Montgomery County, Maryland

9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

Boyd, T.H.S. The History of Montgomery County, Maryland, From its Earliest Settlement in 1650 to 1879. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1968.

Brugger, Robert A. Maryland, A Middle Temperament 1634-1980. Baltimore and London: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1988.

Coleman, Margaret Marshall. Montgomery County: A Pictorial History. Norfolk and Virginia Beach: The Donning Company Publishers, 1984, rev. 1990.

Farquhar, Roger Brooke. Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, Maryland. Washington: Judd and Detweiller, Inc., 1962.

Gowans, Alan. Styles and Types of North American Architecture. New York: Harper Collins, 1992.

Hiebert, Ray Eldon, and Richard K. MacMaster. A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976.

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington including County of Montgomery, Maryland. Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, 1879; reprint, Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society, 1975.

Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland.

Martenet, Simon J. Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County, Maryland. Baltimore, Maryland: Simon J. Martenet, 1865; reprint, Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society.

Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Historic Resources of the Eastern Montgomery County Master Plan Areas. Silver Spring: M-NCPPC, 1995.

Tindall, George Brown. America: A Narrative History. 2 vols. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1984.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Robert Richardson House

SURVEY NO.: M: 28-45 (PACS C6.18)

ADDRESS: 103 Old Bonifant Road, Cloverly vicinity, Montgomery County, Maryland

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

Building

Historic Environment (urban, suburban, village, or rural):

Suburban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Private Residence

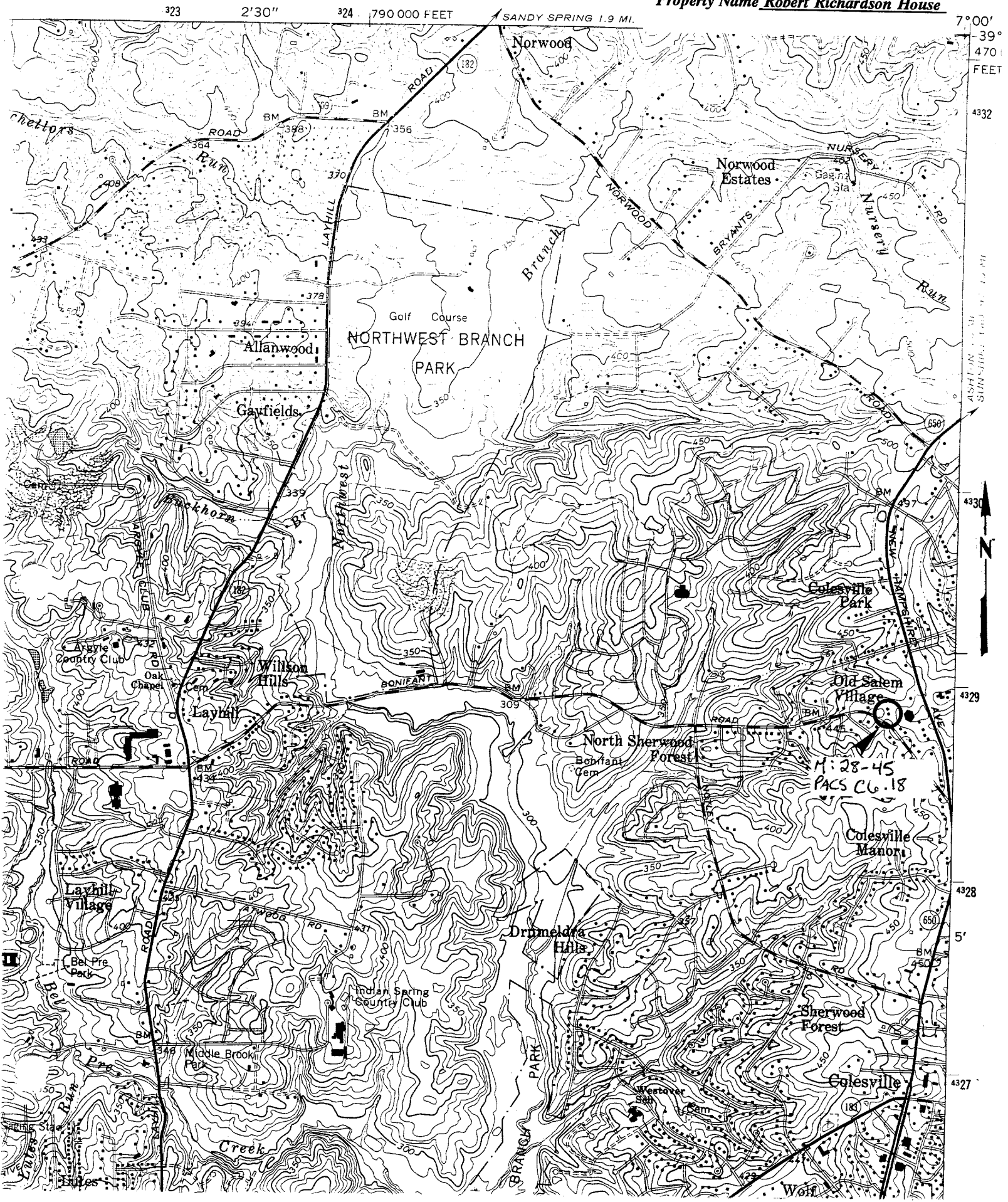
Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

None

Preparer:

P.A.C. Spero & Company

December 1996





1. M: 28-45
2. Robert Richardson House
3. Montgomery
4. Caroline Hall
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spero & Company 40 W. Chesapeake Ave, Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 103 Old Bonifant Road, west elevation
8. 1 of 4



1. M:28-45
 2. Robert Richardson House
 3. Montgomery
 4. Caroline Hall
 5. July 1996
 6. P.A.C. Spero & Company 40 W. Chesapeake
Ave, Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
 7. 103 old Bonifant Road, with elevation
- 5 2 of 4



1. M: 28-45
2. Robert Richardson House
3. Montgomery
4. Caroline Hall
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spero & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake
Ave, Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 103 Old Bonifant Rd East elevation
8. 3 of 4



1. M. 28-45
2. Robert Richardson House
3. Montgomery
4. Caroline Hall
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spool & Company 40 W. Chesapeake
Ave Suite 412 Towson MD 21204
7. 103 Old Bonfant Rd, outbuilding
8. 4 of 4.